Abstract

An electrosurgical apparatus comprises an HF generator and an HF instrument, the HF instrument having a first switch and a second switch, the first switch being assigned a first operating state, and the second switch being assigned a second operating state of the HF generator, the first switch and the second switch further being connected to at least one control signal line, there being assigned, furthermore, to the first switch and the second switch signal coding means that, as a function of the switching state of the first and the second switch, generate from a control input signal different control output signals for the optional activation of the first operating state or of the second operating state of the HF generator, which are fed to the HF generator via the common control line, and the HF instrument furthermore having at least a third switch, which is assigned at least a third operating state of the HF generator. The third switch is connected to the at least one control signal line in such a way that, upon actuation of the third switch, a further control output signal is generated for the activation of the third operating state and is fed to the HF generator via the at least one control signal line.